

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~  
~~as claimed in claim 1, characterized in comprising:~~

a pixel counter for generating a count of pixels  
representative of the number of pixels that have video signal

5 levels higher than a predetermined video level;

a processing unit for modifying contrast of the video  
signal in dependence on the count of pixels;

—a contrast counter ~~(112)~~ designed to provide for  
providing control input for the processing unit ~~(102)~~ and for, said  
10 contrast counter storing a contrast count that is decreased each  
time the count of pixels exceeds a predefined threshold; and  
~~connected to the contrast counter (112)~~

—a trigger means ~~(114)~~ designed to generate, coupled to  
the contrast counter, for generating a pulse, resulting in an  
15 increase of the contrast count.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The video signal enhancement unit  
~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the trigger

means ~~(114) is arranged to generate~~generates the pulse every video field.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said video signal enhancement unit further comprising comprises a second pixel counter, substantially similar to said pixel counter, for  
5 generating a second count of pixels representative of a second number of pixels that ~~occur within a second predetermined period of time and which have video signal levels that are higher than a second predetermined video level, and characterized in that the~~ trigger means ~~(114) is arranged to generate~~generating the pulse if  
10 ~~on a predetermined moment of time~~, the second count of pixels is less than a second predefined threshold.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ video signal enhancement unit ~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 2, characterized in ~~comprising, coupled to the contrast counter (112), that said video signal enhancement unit further comprises~~ a contrast comparator ~~(116) able to~~  
5 ~~limit~~coupled to the contrast counter, said contrast comparator limiting the contrast count to a maximum contrast value.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The video signal enhancement unit  
~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the maximum  
contrast value is controllable.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The video signal enhancement unit  
~~(100)~~ as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the contrast  
comparator ~~(116)~~ ~~is able to control~~controls the trigger means ~~(114)~~  
to stop generating pulses when the contrast count has reached the  
5 maximum contrast value.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) An image display apparatus ~~(200)~~ ~~as~~  
~~claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the video signal~~  
~~enhancement unit (100) comprises~~ comprising:

receiving means for receiving a video signal;

5 a display device for displaying images represented by the  
video signal; and

a video signal enhancement unit comprising:

a pixel counter for generating a count of pixels  
representative of the number of pixels that have video signal  
10 levels higher than a predetermined video level;

a processing unit for modifying contrast of the video  
signal in dependence on the pixel count;

~~\_\_\_\_\_ a trigger means (114) and a contrast counter (112)~~  
~~designed to provide~~for providing a control input for the processing  
15 unit ~~(102)~~ and for storing a contrast count that is decreased each  
time the count of pixels exceeds a predefined threshold,~~;~~ and  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ a trigger means, coupled to the contrast counter, for~~  
~~generating that is increased each time the trigger means (114)~~  
generates a pulse resulting in an increase of the contrast count.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The image display apparatus ~~(200)~~ as  
claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the trigger means ~~(114)~~  
~~is arranged to generate~~generates a pulse every video field.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The image display apparatus ~~(200)~~ as  
claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the video signal  
enhancement unit ~~(100)~~further comprises, ~~a contrast comparator~~  
coupled to the contrast counter ~~(112)~~, a said contrast comparator  
5 ~~(116) able to limit~~limiting the contrast count to a maximum  
contrast value.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of video signal enhancement  
comprising the steps:

~~a first step to generate~~generating a count of pixels  
representative of the number of pixels in the video signal that

5 ~~occur within a predetermined period of time and which have video~~  
signal levels ~~that are higher than a predetermined video level; and~~  
~~a second step to modify~~modifying contrast of the video  
signal in dependence on ~~the count of pixels~~a contrast count,  
~~characterized in that the predetermined period of time, during~~  
10 ~~which the count of pixels is determined, is a number of times~~  
~~shorter than one video field interval;~~  
storing the contrast count, and decreasing the stored  
contrast count each time the count of pixels exceeds a predefined  
threshold; and  
15 increasing the contrast count in response to a trigger  
pulse.